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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Massaro et al)

Serial No.: 09/919,195)

Conf. No. 4830)

Filed: July 31, 2001)

For: METHODS AND)
COMPOSITIONS FOR THE)
TREATMENT AND PREVENTION)
OF LUNG DISEASE)

Examiner: Seaman, Margaret)

Group Art Unit: 1625

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express mail (Label No. EL 897832624US) in an envelope addressed to: Box Amendment-Non Fee; Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

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Signature: Bonnie Ferguson

Date of Signature: 3/4/2002

REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Reply is being filed in reply to the Office Action mailed December 4, 2001. Applicants have the following comments.

AMENDMENT

Please enter the following amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the following claim to read as follows:

- B1
1. (Amended) A composition for the treatment or prevention of alveolar destruction in a mammal comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an RAR β antagonist having specific RAR modulating activity and a pharmacologically acceptable vehicle suitable for treatment of lung pathologies.

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's comments in the Office Action dated December 4, 2001, and respond as follows. Claim 1 has been amended to indicate that the